New York PFAS Issues DATE: October 22, 2019

NEW YORK PFAS STANDARDS

BACKGROUND

- New York's current PFAS Standards, Criteria, and Guidance:
 - Potentially 10 ppt for PFOA based on New York State Drinking Water Quality Council (NYDWQC) recommendations.
 - Potentially 10 ppt for PFOS based on NYDWQC panel recommendations.
 - These recommendations were accepted by the commissioner of the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) on July 8, 2019. After state register publication and public comment these will be the lowest MCLs for PFOA and PFOS in the country.
- Under the SDWA, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has the lead for implementing the drinking water program in New York and considerable action has occurred by New York to address PFOA, PFOS, and I,4-dioxane in drinking water.
- New York State has established the Emerging Contaminants Water Infrastructure Improvement Grants which will provide \$185 million in grant funding to communities upgrading drinking water treatment systems to address PFOA, PFOS, and 1,4-dioxane.

KEY POINTS

- In 2019, EPA is making available \$44,938,000 in DWSRF funding to New York State. In New York the DWSRF is jointly administered by NYSDOH and the New York Environmental Facilities Corporation (NYSEFC)
- In relation to the Hoosick Falls site, NYSDEC is studying bringing an alternate water supply to the community *INTERNAL*: Providing the alternate supply could be precedent setting, given the community's supply has been mitigated to meet Safe Drinking Water Standards.
- Senator Gillibrand has called upon EPA to set standards for PFOA and supports cleaning up the Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics - McCaffery Street site in Hoosick Falls, NY.
- On June 24, 2019 Lisa Hofflich, Senator Gillibrand's Hudson Valley Office Director sent EPA R2 an email on behalf of the Town of New Windsor, NY, regarding the PFOA/PFAS contamination of its municipal drinking water well, which serves both New Windsor and Newburgh, NY (as noted, a population of over 50,000 people combined). In her note, she highlighted that the town of New Windsor was looking for financial assistance and guidance to combat these issues. The town is currently paying to draw water from the NYC Aqueduct, and in addition to that expense officials still need to service the debt incurred for constructing two wells that had to be shut down for PFOS/PFOA contamination
- On August 9, 2019 Senator Gillibrand and Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) announced they called on the Chairman
 and Ranking Member of the Senate Armed Services Committee to include their bipartisan, Senate-passed perand polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) provisions in the upcoming final National Defense Authorization Act
 conference bill.

TALKING POINTS

- The EPA is moving forward with the maximum contaminant level (MCL) process outlined in the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) for PFOA and PFOS. The process prescribed by the Act ensures scientific integrity and transparency when developing regulations for contaminants in public water systems.
- The Agency's comprehensive PFAS Action Plan identifies both short-term solutions for addressing PFAS chemicals and long-term strategies that will help provide the tools and technologies states, tribes, and local communities need to clean up sites and provide clean and safe drinking water to their residents.

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Northrop Grumman, RCRA Corrective Action Facility - Bethpage, NY

- In 1941, Northrop Grumman (NG) purchased the property and started production of aircraft during WWII.
 Later the Navy and NG exchanged properties, resulting in a 109-acre Government-Owned Contractor-Operated (GOCO) facility and a neighboring 550-acre NG-owned and operated facility.
- A major focus of the remediation is an off-site groundwater plume which is approximately 4-mile long and 2-mile wide. The primary contaminant is trichloroethylene with additional 1,4-dioxane contaminants.
- PFAS recently have been detected in on-site groundwater on the Navy property. The PFAS is believed to be associated with aqueous film-forming foam used primarily for firefighting.
- PFOA and PFOS maximum concentrations found were 99 and 147 ppt, respectively.
- The sum of PFOA and PFOS exceeded the EPA HA of 70 ppt in three monitoring wells.
- Groundwater is the sole source for potable water in Nassau County. A number of public water supply systems are affected (and are undergoing treatment) or are in the path of this groundwater plume. As the

- groundwater plume is not uniformly contaminated, the Navy and Grumman are working on treatment of several highly contaminated areas.
- NYSDEC is working with the USGS on developing a detailed plan for eventual containment of this plume, with discharge of treated groundwater back into the aquifer.
- Navy's former Drum Marshalling Area has a vapor intrusion containment system in-place and is scheduled to undergo excavation and disposal of PCB contaminated soils upon approval of the draft work plan.

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